

Remarks

Claims 68-81 are added by the present amendment. Claims 1, 41-43, and 45-67 are canceled by the present amendment. Claims 2-40 and 44 have been previously canceled.

Claims 68-81 have been added to provoke an interference with U.S. patent No. 6,086,973 issued July 11, 2000 to Hazes. Claims 68-81 correspond substantially to claims 1-13 of the Hazes patent. Claim 68 corresponds substantially to claim 1 of the Hazes patent. Claim 68 differs from claim 1 of the Hazes patent in that the phrase in claim 1 lines 4 and 5 of the Hazes patent of "stripping force to tear load of at least 1:1.5" has been changed to -- peel force to tear strength of at least 1:2-- in lines 4 and 5 of claim 68. The same change has been made in claim 73 lines 5 and 6 which corresponds to claim 6 of the Hazes patent. Both claims 80 and 81 correspond to claim 13 of the Hazes patent. Claim 80 recites the term "convex" which is the same term that is used in claim 13 of the Hazes patent. Claim 81 uses the term "irregular" --i.e., a term used on page 8 lines 25-27 of the present application to describe a substrate surface.

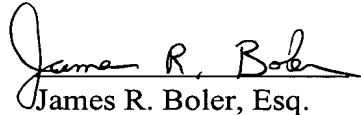
The minor changes noted above in claims 68, 73, and 81 merely result from the fact that the parties have used slightly different language in describing the same invention.

Applicants have submitted herewith a 37 CFR 1.607 request for an interference with the Hazes patent. The 37 CFR 1.607 request includes a filled out form PTO-850 for the convenience of the examiner.



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Respectfully submitted,



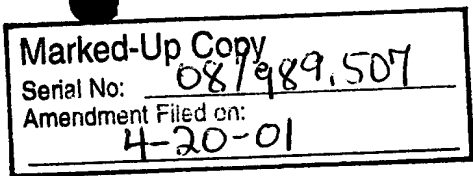
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68. (Amended) An adhesive film strip composite comprising:
- a) an adhesive film strip: ~~(begin new paragraph)~~ (i) which is elastically or plastically extensible, ~~(begin new paragraph)~~ (ii) which exhibits an adhesion less than its cohesion [and], ~~(begin new paragraph)~~ (iii) the adhesion disappears on extension, [and] ~~(begin new paragraph)~~ (iv) which exhibits a ratio of peel force to tear strength of at least 1:2, and ~~(begin new paragraph)~~ (v) which when bonded to a substrate, can be released from said substrate by pulling on the adhesive film strip in the direction of the plane of the bond formed between said adhesive film strip and said substrate; and
 - b) a plurality of hook or loop fasteners adhered to one side of said adhesive film strip in such a way that said hook or loop fasteners are free to be fastened to mating loop or hook fasteners.
69. (Amended) The adhesive film strip composite according to claim 68, wherein said [the] adhesive film strip is covered with a cover film on a side opposite that to which said plurality of hook or loop fasteners are adhered.
70. (Amended) The adhesive film strip composite according to claim 68, wherein the adhesive film strip [comprises] includes a grip tab at one end.
71. (Amended) The adhesive film strip composite according to claim 70, wherein said [the] grip tab protrudes beyond the hook or loop fasteners.

72. (Amended) The adhesive film strip composite according to claim 68, wherein said [the] adhesive film strip is elastically or plastically extensible due to the presence of an intermediate support.

73. (Amended) The adhesive film strip composite according to claim 68, wherein ~~(begin new paragraph)~~ (i) said hook or loop fasteners are fastened to [a] ~~the~~ plurality of mating loop or hook fasteners, ~~(begin new paragraph)~~ (ii) said plurality [which] of mating loop or hook fasteners are adhered to one side of a second adhesive film strip, ~~(begin new paragraph)~~ (iii) said [which] second adhesive film strip is elastically or plastically extensible, ~~(begin new paragraph)~~ (iv) said second adhesive film strip exhibits an adhesion less than its cohesion, ~~(begin new paragraph)~~ (v) [and] the adhesion of said second adhesive film strip disappears on extension, [and which] ~~(begin new paragraph)~~ (vi) said second adhesive film strip exhibits a ratio of peel force to tear strength of at least 1:2, and ~~(begin new paragraph)~~ (vii) when said second adhesive film strip is bonded to a second substrate, said second adhesive film strip can be released from said second substrate by pulling on said [the] second adhesive film strip in the direction of the plane of the bond formed between said second adhesive film strip and said second substrate.

74. (Amended) The adhesive film strip composite according to claim 73, wherein: ~~(begin new paragraph)~~ (i) said [the] adhesive film strip is covered with a cover film on a side opposite that to which said plurality of hook or loop fasteners are adhered, and/or ~~(begin new paragraph)~~ (ii) said [the] second adhesive film strip is covered with a cover film on a side opposite that to which said plurality of mating loop or hook fasteners are adhered.

75. (Amended) The adhesive film strip composite according to claim 73, wherein: ~~(begin new paragraph)~~ (i) said [the] adhesive film strip [comprises] includes a grip tab at one end

and/or ~~(begin new paragraph) (ii) said~~ [the] second adhesive film strip [comprises] ~~includes~~ a grip tab ~~at one end~~.

76. (Amended) The adhesive film strip composite according to claim 75, wherein: ~~(begin new paragraph) (i) said~~ [the] grip tab of the adhesive film strip protrudes beyond the hook or loop fasteners, and/or ~~(begin new paragraph) (ii) said~~ [the] grip tab of the second adhesive film strip protrudes beyond ~~said plurality of~~ [the] mating loop or hook fasteners.

77. (Amended) The adhesive film strip composite according to claim 73, wherein ~~said~~ [the] adhesive film strip and/or the second adhesive film strip is elastically or plastically extensible due to the presence of an intermediate support.

78. (Amended) In a method comprising bonding an adhesive film strip to a substrate, and optionally thereafter releasing said adhesive ~~film~~ strip from said substrate by pulling on the adhesive film strip in the direction of the plane of the bond formed between said adhesive film strip and said substrate, the improvement which comprises employing as said adhesive film strip the adhesive film strip according to any one of claims 68-71, 72, 73-76, and 77.

79. (Amended) The method according to claim 78, wherein ~~said~~ [the] substrate is non-planar.

80. (Amended) The method according to claim 79, wherein ~~said~~ [the] non-planar substrate is convex.

81. (Amended) The method according to claim 79, wherein ~~said~~ [the] non-planar substrate is irregular.